Expeditions at Northwest Passage

It is our belief at NWHPS that all students participate in extended learning experiences we call expeditions. Expeditions serve several purposes among them are the opportunity for students to experience learning from multiple perspectives, the opportunity to learn and grow with other students and staff, as well as, exposing students to different environments, cultures and ways of living. In order to provide students with expeditions prior to graduating it is the commitment of the NWHPS staff and school board to fully fund all expeditions. However, as with most things in life privileges come with responsibilities. With that in mind the following criteria has been designed to provide all students an opportunity to participate in expeditions and at the same time provide students room to grow, mature and progress. The following levels have been designed to help students map out a progression of expeditions over the course of their time at NWHPS. Students must successfully complete a Level 1 trip to be eligible for a Level 2 trip. To apply for a Level 3 trip students must successfully complete a Level 2 trip. Students who do not successfully complete a trip, or do not possess the necessary skills or maturity to move on to the next level may still be eligible for another trip at the same level.

**Level I:**
- 1-2 Nights
- 1-2 hours from school
- Examples: Leadership Camp, Service Learning Trip, Short-camping Trip

**Level II:**
- 2-3 Nights
- + 2 hours from school
- Examples: Summer In-House, Medium Range Camping, Chicago

**Level III:**
- + 3 Nights
- Examples: Summer Camping Expedition, Extended Wilderness, International Trip

**ALL EXPEDITIONS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE OR CANCELLATION**
September
Advisory Leadership Expeditions:
Advisories are teaming up this year to provide an expedition that focuses on developing advisory leaders. These expeditions will focus on helping students who are emerging leaders develop skills that they can bring back to their advisories. Please talk to your advisor if you are interested in this experience.

Advisory Pairs and Dates:
Megan/Val & Kurtis Oct 25-26
Leah/Theresa & Jason  Sept. 27th-29th
Ruth/Dave, Chuck, Jennifer & Vashti  Sept. 27-29
Jenny/Brandi Sept 20-21
Requirements: 10th & 11th grade interested in taking a more active leadership role in your advisory.

**Dates and times could change due to unforeseen circumstances. We will make every effort to hold to this schedule.**
October

**MAAP STARS Fall Leadership Retreat**

Dates: Oct. 9-10

**Level II**

Description: This is an invite only 2 day fall leadership conference held at Lake Beauty in Long Prairie. If learning more and getting involved in MAAP STARS is something you are interested in, let Brandi or Theresa know.

Leaders: Brandi & Theresa

Requirements: Medical Forms on file

**Application Deadline: Invite Only**

Parent Meeting: Staff will contact

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**9th Grade Retreat - YMCA Camp Icaghowan**

Dates: October 11-13

**Level I**

Description: Two night expedition to YMCA Camp Icaghowan in Amery, WI. Participants will take part in a variety of group activities and it is a great opportunity to get to know each other. The goal of this expedition is to have 9th graders experience and successfully complete their first level one expedition at NWPHS.

Leaders: Megan, Jennifer, Jason & Theresa (9th grade cohort leaders)

Requirements: 9th Grader, Medical Form on file

**Application Deadline: Sept. 25**

Parent Meeting: Oct 2nd 6:00 p.m.

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**St Croix Canoe and Hiking**

Dates: October 11-13, 2018

**Level II**

Description: Travel to the beautiful St. Croix River and set up camp at William O’Brien State Park north of Marine on the St. Croix. We will spend two nights camping next to the river. Our goal is to practice our camping and outdoors skills which will include Outdoor cooking, setting up camp, canoeing and hiking. The St. Croix Valley is a great place to experience the outdoors.

Leaders: Suzanne and Dave

Requirements: Have completed a level I expedition, attend the informational meeting and have completed the required expedition forms for being on a trip.

**Application Deadline: September 25**

Parent Meeting: October 2, 2018 @ 6:00 PM
November
Game Fest
Dates: November 29-December 1
Level I
Description: This is a beginning level expedition up at Audubon of the Northwoods in Sandstone, MN. Join us for a weekend of games and team building. You will have the opportunity to bring your favorite board or card game and teach a friend how to play! We will also enjoy cooking our own healthy food and designing our own game. Experience what expeditions are like at Northwest Passage, earn credit and play games.

Leaders: Vashti and Dave
Requirements: medical form on file, attendance at informational meeting
Application Deadline: Tuesday, October 23, 2018
Parent Meeting: TBD

December
Fiber Arts - Buttermilk Farms
Dates: December TBD
Level I
Description: This trip includes a 3-day stay Buttermilk Falls CSA farm and folk school in Osceola, WI. We will study the path of wool “from sheep sweater” through spinning, knitting, crocheting, felting, and weaving. NWPFS staff will collaborate with community experts in various textile crafts. We will stay in a heated cabin at the farm, cook our own meals in the kitchen, and hike/ explore the surrounding forests, fields, and spring-fed streams in the St. Croix River Valley.

Leaders: Ruth, Chuck
Requirements: Medical Form
Application Deadline: November TBD
Parent Meeting: TBD 6:00 p.m.
January

Model Assembly

Dates: January 10-13, 2019

Level II

Description: Are you tired of how the government works? Would you like to take a turn at running the government? We pair up with students from the Northtown YMCA delegation and join youth from all over the state of Minnesota to take over the government for a weekend. Students will be based either out of the Hilton in Minneapolis or the State Capitol grounds where they will work to pass laws, argue cases, or debate a national topic.

Leader: Sara

Requirements: Successful completion of Level 1 expedition and participation in the pre-trip workshop. Students will be expected to attend the Model Assembly Launch event on Saturday, October 27th.

Application Deadline: Wednesday, September 19th

Parent Meeting: Tuesday, November 13th at 5:30pm

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Women in Science and Gulf Coast

Louisiana Culture & History

Dates: Jan. 20-Jan. 29, 2019

Level III

Description: The Mississippi River is in at our front steps here in Coon Rapids and we may not think about how what we do in Minnesota affects others downstream. In this 10 day expedition to Gulf Coast Louisiana we will learn through first hand field experiences, application of prior learning, interviews and work with experts in environmental science about the formation of coastal wetlands, why they are needed and what is impacting them right now. We will be immersed in the local and complex cultural tapestry and learn about the settling of New Orleans. We will spend time in Memphis, TN and New Orleans, LA and Grand Isle, LA and learn about the environment, culture, slavery and civil rights history and the links to present day issues. Be prepared to learn a ton and fall in love with an amazing area of the U.S.!!!!!!

Leaders: Brandi & Theresa

Requirements: Girls only, completed project request, previous Level 1 & 2 trip, complete Ann Bancroft grant application, participation in pre trip workshop, medical form on file.

Application Deadline: Sept. 27, 2018

Parent Meeting: Dec. 18, 2018, 6:00 p.m.
February
YMCA Camp Icaghowan Service Learning Retreat
Dates: TBD
Level 1
Description: This is a two night expedition at Camp Icaghowan in Wisconsin. Students will participate in pre-trip service learning training, plan and then implement a service learning project at the camp.

Leaders: Dave & Vashti
Requirements: medical forms on file, attendance at informational meeting
Application Deadline: January 29
Parent Meeting: TBD

Guatemala
Dates: February TBD
Level 3
Description: On the Guatemala expedition students will work with the Friends of San Lucas mission to participate in service learning activities. In the past we have worked with local builders to construct houses, stoves, schools, and roads. We will also have an opportunity to learn about coffee harvesting and often participate in the process. This is a culturally immersive expedition. In addition to parent meetings, preparation will include in school group meetings and the Spanish seminar.

Leaders: Jenny & Chuck
Requirements: Successful level 1 and 2 expeditions, High level of freedom
Application Deadline: September 13th
Parent Meeting: September 25th
March
Yoga and Wellness Retreat
Dates: March
Level I
Description: We will explore using yoga and meditation to ground ourselves, as well as cooking our own food from healthy recipes.

Leaders: Val and TBD
Requirements: Attendance at parent meeting and medical forms on file
Application Deadline:
Parent Meeting:

Model United Nations
Dates: Mar 28-30, 2019
Level II
Description: A simulation in which students, representing UN member states, meet to find solutions to common problems. It offers a world of opportunity where concepts and principles from the classroom can come to life. Join us and change your world.

Leaders: Kurtis
Requirements: Participation in pre-trip workshop
Application Deadline: January 18
Parent Meeting: January 29

Washington, DC
Dates: March 29- April 4
Level III
Description: We will be looking at the historical and political aspects of DC as well as exploring the national monuments and sites of the nation’s capital. We will be walking and using public transportation. Students should be prepared to spend as many as 4-5 miles a day walking

Leaders: Jason & Leah
Requirements: Successful level 2 trip, Medical Forms on file, participate in pre-trip workshop
Application Deadline: February 5th
Parent Meeting: March 5th 6:00 p.m.
April
Chicago Art Tour
Dates: April 11-14
Level II
Description: Students will explore Chicago, a city with world-renowned museums and architecture. Possible places to visit include the Chicago Institute of Art, Field Museum, Navy Pier, and the Willis Tower. Students will also learn how to navigate a large city and will enjoy the scenery of Lake Michigan.
Leaders: Megan and Sara
Requirements: Successful level 1 trip, medical forms on file, participate in pre-trip meetings
Application Deadline: Wednesday, March 6th
Parent Meeting: March 26th @ 5:30pm

Superior Hiking Trip
Dates: April 18-20
Level I
Description: We will hike and camp for two nights on the Superior Hiking Trail in northern Minnesota. This is a great trip for folks who are looking to learn wilderness skills.

Leaders: Vashti & Suzanne
Requirements: medical forms, attendance at family meeting and participation in group training sessions
Application Deadline: February 20
Parent Meeting: Tuesday, April 2 at 6:00pm

Black Hills South Dakota
Dates: Late April TBD
Level III
Description: Journey to the Black Hills of South Dakota and learn about many different pieces of our history preserved in the west. We will visit the Crazy Horse memorial, a Native American Bead Museum, an active archeological dig site in Hot Springs, Mount Rushmore National Monument, as well as several historic areas in and around Rapid City.

Leaders: Ruth & Kurtis
Requirements: Medical form,

Application Deadline: March 7
Parent Meeting: April 2 @ 6:00 PM, Kurtis’ Room
May

Jay Cooke Backpacking Trip
Dates: May 8-11, 2019
Level II
Description: This is a level two trip designed for students who haven’t been on an extended wilderness trip or for students who needed some additional core credit to graduate. Students and staff hike 10-12 miles total in the four-day course. Students learn about fire building, cooking, hiking, and general camping skills.
Leaders: Val & Kurtis
Requirements: medical forms
Application Deadline: April 11
Parent Meeting Day: April 23

MAAP STARS State Competition
Dates: May 9-10
Level II
Description: This 2 day competition is open to students who have participated in the MAAP STARS seminar past or present. Students who take the seminar will prepare for the competition during the seminar and during independent PBL time.
Leaders: Brandi & Theresa
Requirements: Participation in MAAP STARS class current or past, completing preparations for competition, medical form on file.
Application Deadline: Invite Only
Parent meeting: Staff will contact